

Glacier National Park (A part of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park) P.O. Box 128 West Glacier, MT 59936 www.nps.gov/glac/home.htm

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Glacier National Park News Release

June 29, 2002 For Immediate Release Charlie Logan 406-888-7831 Bill Hayden 406 888-7927 NEWS02-36

Drowning victim recovered from Avalanche Creek

West Glacier, MT – Rangers recovered the body of Manita Diaz Nery, age 59, of Freeland, Washington, from Avalanche Creek today at 2:45pm. Ms Nery had been hiking with a friend, Friday June 28, when she stepped off the side of the trail and slipped into Avalanche Creek just above Avalanche Gorge.

An extensive search and rescue effort was started within minutes. Over 20 park staff members mounted a ground and helicopter rescue effort, that continued through the night. Search dogs from both Flathead County Search and Rescue, of Kalispell and the David Thompson Search and Rescue Team, from Libby aided in the search.

Park officials want to remind visitors to exercise extreme caution around rivers and streams throughout the park. Rocks in and along stream edges are often wet and slippery. Heavier than normal snowpack in the mountains has kept streams running high and cold.